

# Rural Community Development Initiative

**Description:** RCDI helps private, not-for-profit community-based organizations and low-income communities improve rural economic development, housing, and community facilities in rural areas.

**Grant Purposes:** The grant funds are made to qualified private, non-profit, or public organizations (known as intermediaries) to provide technical assistance and training to recipient organizations. These intermediaries help recipients develop their capacity and ability to undertake projects related to housing, community facilities, or community and economic development.

**Who Can Apply:** private, non-profit, or public organizations

**Grant amount:** Between \$50,000 and \$500,000. In FY 2005, \$6 million is available nationwide. Participating organizations must provide matching funds from other sources equal to the grant amount. Other Federal funds may be used as matching funds. In-kind contributions cannot be used as matching funds.



**Application Time Frame:** The dates to submit an application vary and are published in the Federal Register. For the FY 2005 RCDI Program, applications will be accepted from August 5, 2005 to November 3, 2005.

**Where to Apply:** The web site to download application requirements and to obtain more information on the RCDI program is: [www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/rcdi/index.htm](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/rcdi/index.htm). Questions can be referred to William Kenney at (202) 720-1506 or at [william.kenney@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:william.kenney@wdc.usda.gov). In Georgia, contact Jack Stanek, (706) 546-2171 or at [jack.stanek@ga.usda.gov](mailto:jack.stanek@ga.usda.gov). More information is also available at our State web site located at [www.rurdev.usda.gov/ga/](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ga/)

**Examples of Projects Funded:** The program was started in FY 2000. Since that time, nine projects have been selected for funding in Georgia for a total of more than \$2 million. In the past, grants have been awarded to the Georgia Legal Services Program, the University of Georgia, the Lower Chattahoochee Regional Development Center and the Southwest Georgia United Empowerment Zone. Two of the proposals selected are summarized below.

**Georgia Legal Services Program:** A grant in the amount of \$150,000 was awarded to provide technical assistance to three non-profit organizations so that these organizations could develop the capacity to take on projects that would improve the quality of housing in their respective areas. The counties involved with this proposal included Clinch, Terrell, and Treutlen.

**University of Georgia:** A grant in the amount of \$400,000 was awarded to the University who is working with a non-profit organization to conduct the Consumer Financial Literacy Program in seven distressed counties in the southwest portion of the State. The counties involved with this proposal include Calhoun, Clay, Early, Quitman, Randolph, Stewart, and Webster.

